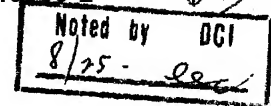
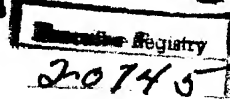


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21 August 1951

Memorandum for the Record

1. A meeting was held on 20 August between Mr. Theodore Babbitt, Director of Intelligence of the Federal Civil Defense Administration, and Messrs. [] and Pforzheimer and Col. Hansen of CIA.

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2. The subject for discussion was testimony given to a House Appropriations Subcommittee in connection with the Supplemental Appropriations for 1952 by Federal Civil Defense Administrator Caldwell, and to the District of Columbia Subcommittee by D. C. Civil Defense Director Fondahl. This testimony, although originally given in Executive Session, was made public in accordance with custom when the Bill was reported out by the Committee.

3. The Washington Post of August 17, 1951 and the New York Times of the same date quoted Governor Caldwell as stating that certain changes in United States planning in civil defense are being made because of "certain vital and new information from the Central Intelligence Agency concerning Russian capabilities." Mr. Fondahl was quoted by the Washington Post as stating that the Soviets now had 100 atomic bombs, and that his figure came from "the best information sources".

4. It is the CIA opinion that references to CIA and its information should be avoided to the greatest extent possible by non-CIA persons called to testify before the Congress. If a witness is forced to make such a disclosure, it was agreed that it should be on an off-the-record basis. The possible source of embarrassment to CIA of remarks such as those indicated above were explained to Mr. Babbitt.

5. Mr. Babbitt pointed out that the Federal Civil Defense Administration had no control over Mr. Fondahl as District Administrator. He stated, however, that the Federal agency had never made classified information of this type available either to Fondahl or any of the State directors. He agreed that an appropriate official of FCDA might talk with Fondahl on an unofficial basis to attempt to discover how he had arrived at the figure of 100 and caution him regarding statements of this type.

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6. Mr. Babbitt also agreed to talk to Governor Caldwell in an attempt to review the Governor's statements of this nature in advance to eliminate possible references to CIA. He would also seek to urge the Governor not to attribute statements to CIA if possible. If it were necessary for the Governor to do so in the course of Committee questioning, Mr. Babbitt will seek to have the testimony reviewed prior to its publication in order to delete references to CIA.

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Walter L. Pforzheimer
Legislative Counsel

cc: Mr. Babbitt (FCDA) on 5 October 1951

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